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Gîtagovinda, with notes and Latin version; part of the drama Mâlatî-Mâdhava; a Sanskrit Anthology, with glossary; and an elaborate Prâkrit grammar: also, a host of important articles in Oriental journals. Of the *Zeitschrift für die Kunde des Morgenlandes* he was long editor and chief author. He by no means, however, confined his studies to India. His aid in the decipherment of the Persian cuneiform inscriptions was very important; and he tried his hand also, with effect, upon the Umbrian. The Zend and modern Persian were subjects included in his University lectures.

Lassen was admirable for singleness and simplicity of character, freedom from affectation or pedantry, and courtesy and helpfulness to his pupils. A contented cheerfulness of disposition, too, was a striking characteristic. Few men have combined a life so splendid in the eyes of the learned world with such narrowness of means and such physical trials. The failing of his eyes, probably brought on by excessive use in difficult collations, began to grow serious after 1840; and it was followed by other weaknesses, which compelled him to spend the greater part of his time reclining on a lounge, and to be wheeled about in a chair. His lectures came to an end in 1864. His last literary work was done by the aid of his wife and of a reader and amanuensis. He lost until the very end neither his memory nor his keen interest for every thing that bore upon the studies of his life. He was married in 1849, and leaves no children.

JOHANN CHRISTIAN POGGENDORFF.

The story of the noble and useful life of Johann Christian Poggendorff may be told in a few words. He was born at Hamburg, Dec. 29, 1796; received his early education at the Gymnasium in that city; and at the age of sixteen entered the shop of an apothecary, where he remained eight years. In 1821, he became a student in the University of Berlin, and in the following year published his first paper, in which he described the galvanometer, since, in its improved form, so necessary an instrument of physical research. The true work of his life began in 1824, when he issued the first number of the "Annalen der Physik und Chemie" as a continuation of the "Annalen der Physik" of Gilbert. During fifty-three years, Poggendorff directed the publication of the "Annalen," — the noblest scientific periodical which has ever appeared, the one work which is indispensable to the student of physical science. Every important memoir in any department of physics appeared in this journal. Almost the whole scientific life of Berzelius, Faraday, Melloni, Magnus, the two Roses, Mitscherlich, Regnault, and a host of others, is written in its pages, and a large proportion of the translations from foreign languages were the work of the editor alone. After fifty years of his unassuming labor, Poggendorff's friends united in contributing to a "Jubelband," or jubilee volume, in honor of the anniversary of his connection with the "Annalen;" and a goodly tome filled with original memoirs marked the beginning of the second half-century of his life-work. A short time before his death, Poggendorff sought to give the "Annalen" a still wider range of usefulness by the occasional publication of "Beiblätter," or supplements, containing brief abstracts of the work of foreign investigators. The first number of this supplement appeared only a few days before his death. It might well be thought that the superintendence of the "Annalen" would be work enough for one man. But Poggendorff found time for original researches in several branches of physics, chiefly in electricity and magnetism. We owe to him the invention of the method of measuring small angular variations by means of a plane-mirror telescope and scale, now in constant use. To chemistry he contributed the method of indirect analysis, which is frequently of great value. The list of his published papers embraces more than one hundred and thirty titles. In 1863, he published, in two large volumes, the well-known "Biographisch-literarisches Handwörterbuch zur Geschichte der exacten Wissenchaften," — the worthy forerunner of the noble work of the Royal Society, and in itself a monument of careful labor. In Berlin, Poggendorff was surrounded by a circle of warmly attached friends. He was himself the type of the German scientist. Of unusual discrimination and critical ability, — laborious, patient, untiring, — he worked in his own vocation for nearly sixty years "without haste and without rest." Personally, he was kindly, genial, and hospitable, perfectly free from ostentation, with the heartiest sympathy for the student of science, and the most cordial appreciation of the work of others. On the 24th of January last, in his eighty-first year, he died, leaving a name honored wherever science is honored, cherished and loved by all who knew the man.

KARL ERNST VON BAER.

Karl Ernst Von Baer was born the 29th Feb., 1792, at Piep, the estate of his father in Esthonia, and died at Dorpat, aged eighty-four. It was a long life devoted to intellectual work, and, though it included active periods of travel and exploration, its most memorable events belong to the laboratory and are to be found in the annals of scientific